

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to incorporate recitations of claims 4 and 6, and claims 3, 4, and 6 have been canceled accordingly. Claim 5 has been amended to resolve an issue raised by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and claims 7 and 8 have been amended to change their dependency and to make editorial changes.

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

In response, Applicants submit that since claim 4 is canceled and claims 1, 2, 5, 7, and 8 as amended contain two or more components, the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, has been rendered moot.

Also, since "benzophenone-based compounds", for example, has been changed to "benzophenone-containing compounds" in claim 5 as amended, the rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, has been overcome.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Art Rejections

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by WO 03/072614. On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-4 and 6-8 are rejected

under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okamoto et al (5,385,807). On page 4 of the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dueber et al (6,218,074).

In response, Applicants submit that WO '614 does not disclose the limitation of claim 6, i.e., that "the photopolymerization initiator contains as hydrogen donors for the hexaarylbiimidazole compound a dicarbonyl compound as defined by formula (3)." Therefore, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 to be composition claims including recitations of a dicarbonyl compound of formula (3). Applicants submit that WO '614 does not anticipate the amended invention, because it does not disclose the added dicarbonyl compound, and the specific combination of the hexaarylbiimidazole compounds with the added dicarbonyl compound.

Also, Applicants submit that neither US 5,385,807 nor US 6,218,074 teaches or suggests the specific combination of the hexaarylbiimidazole compounds with the dicarbonyl compound as defined in claims 1 and 2 as amended, and therefore the claimed inventions should be deemed as being unobvious.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the art rejections have been overcome, and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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